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THE

TORPEDO.

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TORPEDO,

A

POEM

TOTHE

ELECTRICAL EEL.

ADDRESSED TO

Mr. JOHN HUNTER, SURGEON:

AND DEDICATED TO

The Right Honourable LORD CHOLMONDELEY.

THE FOURTH EDITION, WITH LARGE ADDITIONS.

ELECTRICITY WILL PROBABLY SOON BE CONSIDERED AS THE GREAT VIVI-FYING PRINCIPLE OF NATURE, BY WHICH SHE CARRIES ON MOST OF HER OPERATIONS.

SOME YEARS AGO A LADY OF SWITZERLAND WAS STRANGELY AF-

BRYDONE'S TRAVELS.

LONDON

Printed: And fold by all the Bookfellers in London and Westminster.

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LORD CHOLMONDELEY.

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MY LORD, terrement west event mette full similar reception A

TAKE the liberty of addreffing the following Poem to you, as I know no one to whom it can be dedicated with fo much propriety, or who possesses qualities so essential for the Patron of this Piece. I speak with some degree of confidence, having the honour of remembering your Lordship from a very early period, when you discovered the greatness of those parts which have fince made so respectable a figure in Society.

It is observed, my Lord, that the faculties of people in general, disclose themselves at different periods of life: It has been your peculiar happiness to proceed uniformly, and the enlargement of your powers has been in proportion to your manhood. To a circumstance so fortunate for yourself, give me leave to add, that you have never suffered those parts, when you could help it, to lie dormant; nor lost one opportunity of seeking out new objects to employ them upon. If any thing can yet be more meritorious, it is, that in those which have been but impersectly handled by others, you, my Lord, by throwing them into new positions, have disclosed hidden beauties, and new scenes of delight. With such parts, my Lord, you seem formed by Nature for great attempts, and the tenor of your life has shewn, that nothing could resist your progress.

In the Sciences, what is it that your Lordship has not accomplished? In Architecture, have you not erected a column which strikes every beholder with admiration at its beauty as well as novelty? Beautiful from its superior size, and novel from the frieze being at the bottom. Madam——, that celebrated Antiquary at Paris, has often, I have been informed, handled this Pillar, but never could determine its Order. In the Mechanics, sew people are ignorant of your improvements, particularly in those which relate to the Motion of Bodies, the doctrine of Elasticity, and the great pains you have undergone in making experiments upon the inclined Plane.

In the Arts, my Lord, you feem to have been equally successful, as far as your disposition may have led you. In Painting, who has excelled you in drawing

drawing at full length; in your fondness for the Nude; and, what still more uncommon, if we may credit some Female Connoisseurs, in taking a strong likeness of yourself!

Though mafter of this extensive knowledge, you descend to every thing. You have the goodness to make the Female World your particular care, and to take the Ladies under you, to whom you have an uncommon method of conveying inftruction; uniting Pleasure with Improvement, the only way of making your lessons fink deep into the heart. But this, my Lord, is but a fmall part of your praise: it is your moral character that demands my attention. Have you not been remarked for your laudable enquiries after Innocence? Have you ever refused the purchase of any virtue that was to be had? Nay, have you not employed others in the same amiable pursuit? And by various little presents which you have bestowed on the deserving, have you not convinced us, that in the language of Scripture, you confidered modesty " as a treasure far above rubies." I do not exaggerate, my Lord, when I fay, that all the great Virtues are yours, - Patience, Fortitude, Justice, Charity. In the pursuit of many a favourite object, have you not patiently endured what would have provoked the most gentle? And tho' the illnatured part of mankind is too apt to denominate a laudable ambition, Impudence; have you not, in spite of detraction, persevered in attempting every thing? As to Justice—it is said you are a Justice of the Peace;—and I shall only say of your Charity, that you are a perpetual Contributor to the Magdalen.

My Lord, having all the veneration for you which such qualities deserve, I look forward with sorrow to that period, when age shall render your parts of no farther service. Those being lost, you can have no occasion for life; and we shall with less regret spare your departure from Society, where you have long stood so valuable a member.

I have the honour to be

You rever the good talk to make the Permits World vont named for configuration

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Magdalan da and an annual tagan and all

Though pister of this establic han lang, van descent.

Your Lordship's most devoted

wild Shedbel over tale autilit yes And humble Servant, and selected

The AUTHOR.

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THE

TORPEDO.

ADDRESSED TO

Mr. JOHN HUNTER, SURGEON.

On thee I call a They well-flor'd minds

THOU! whose microscopic eye
Can every living thing descry,

And fearch Dame Nature's womb!

Whose power can raise the lifeless clay,

Drag the pale spectres into day,

And starve the hungry Tomb!

Whether at Surgeons-Hall thy knife

To the last dregs of canker'd life

Restores its wonted prime:

Or now to Lock's all-healing gate

Thou drivest thy chariot's gilded state,

Mercurially sublime!

Or watching o'er the fick man's pains,

Where Fever fires the swelling veins,

And Torture vents her groans:

Or whether now, with toil and trouble,

Fix'd o'er the charmed caldron's bubble,

You stir the murderer's bones!

On thee I call: Thy well-stor'd mind,

Form'd for the good of all mankind,

Can yet compassion feel:

Shall I in dark confinement rest,

Whilst in poetic numbers blest

Survives th' ELECTRIC EEL?

strate of the fine

describes at the Coancil Office, he being obages to fit with a gen in his hard for above

Compatein all doniethic that c

Weren with this fire, he quies

Or, bardy, fhould fome pury clif,

But tantalized his Lander

All Rin and bose, like Cu-T

To Piccadilly beat the flore,

What mighty difference should there be Between this wanton Eel and me? What greater feats can he do? 'Tis true, the wonder of the Throng He draws the Multitude along; So did the famed TORPEDO.

Full well I know his polish'd crest, His tempting form, his speckled vest, Can female flames provoke: When bonso as aight the world When, warm'd by their creative hands, Sudden his length erected stands, And gives the electric stroke.

What tho' I may his tale believe, That every girl, from Mother Eve, Admires the pretty thing: The Done of the wants thouses, Yet all confess it, when they feel, That tho' in form it looks an Eel, It, Serpent-like, can sting.

Spite of the pain which they endure,

'Tis his, I grant, to work a cure

For palfies and for age:

Those master-strokes, I know not how,

Active as C—LT—N, or as H—we,

Amid the battle's rage.

Composing all domestic strife,

Which oft falls out 'twixt man and wife,

Can ease the marriage yoke:

When home at night the husband reels,

Warm with this fire, he quickly seals?

Forgiveness with a stroke.

Or, haply, should some puny elf,

All skin and bone, like CH—TW—ND's self (a),

But tantalize his FANNY;

To Piccadilly strait she slies,

The Electric Eel her wants supplies,

——— Nor sears she need of HANNAY.

(a) This Gentleman's extreme leanness is attributed to the great fatigue he undergoes at the Council Office, he being obliged to sit with a pen in his hand for above an hour at a time.

budden his lenvin ere Bed

Of every flace and fire . . .

OFT-EN-FILES OF PROPERTY

Takan - I would at most four Markin

1928 is aby fulcillo envenous beak

The end of electrifical became

Long has the toff id Come for

Each district fort from Ricck

Those flathers for the dark

Sa much indeed the wanton Dame

Is pleased with that effects! flame,

She couch wears wears.

section ber teleft, store one to draw to

Full well I see each British Dame Has caught the philosophic flame, So charmingly imprest; All eager, like that fapient King, To try the taste of every thing, And stick to what is best.

Sated at length with CH-LM-ND-LY's charms, GR-VSN-R takes T-RN-R to her arms, That avaricious Prig; Such is the vigorous Damsel's zeal. The harmonious Dame of Portro She tries each species of the Eel, Saft lever the new per years, no From Conger down to GRIG (b).

A touch of this Electric Fire Fish, flesh, and fowl alike admire.

T-WBET-T

(b) A small species of Eel—and by which appellation Sir G— T— P was diffinguished in his youth, not from his vivacity, but from its similitude to the abbreviation of his own name, and his arrandomy and arrandomy

fe) Formerly Light-nort, ther prefers names the derives from a very athleur

sentleman, with woom, for as prefere lives in the northern parts of Total him.

east I diving done sond flow full

So chemingly innoish a

All cases. Mile that feeden!

Second at Length with Current

tigiti medidiling medi

Of every shape and size; Has it not fwam in Lady L-KE (a)? Has it not felt the ravenous beak Of T-RN-R's Bird of Paradife?

Though oft electrified before, And flick to what is both. Still pants the Countess of ST_THM-E (b) For one more flout and boney: Long has she tasted, some folks say, Each different fort from Black to GRAY (c), But fixt on that of ST-N-Y.

The harmonious Dame of Portman-Square Still loves, tho' now nor young nor fair, Those flashes in the dark; So much indeed the wanton Dame Is pleased with that ethereal flame, She covets EVERY SPARK.

- (a) Formerly Lig-n-r, her present name she derives from a very athletic Gentleman, with whom she at present lives in the northern parts of Yorkshire.
 - (b) For various accounts of this lady, vide Morning Post.
 - (c) The gray Eel is a species peculiar to the lakes of Scotland.

F-TZR-Y,

Is all the fathion new e-days.

Maye bound thy all-fubduing brow.

The little Loves around it fly,

And the beaten the beatly

Can arimste devotion,

The fully Virgin, flate and want

With all her leign'd diffile to Man,

Has many an amoreus will:

The flame on all thefe Hels the cry,

Went Cat's weer h to

Does the net caft a wildful of

F_TZR Y, Hell's new-elected Queen, All things of Gods and Men had feen, From Jupiter to Plutus; But owns at last that Mother Earth Has given a greater wonder birth, The Electricus Gymnotus.

The beauteous Lady C-TH-R-NE thought The wily nets of Love had caught daid brabash way hear day nests, but A young and tender Eel; And Green front beventh. But, O! ere many months are over, I fear, fair Lady, you'll discover You made a dangerous meal. When on in Woman's boroas poat,

In one point, Electricity; He teached thoughts employ a un the - For all admire the Fish; But tho' the thing is good, they fay, Still they dispute about the way Of dreffing this same Dish.

Here various humours fixt we fee

What tho' it collar'd pleases best The taste of AR--- R and of West,

Immers'd

Immers'd in melting jelly; 2000 befole-wan a libit at 4 mon-1

The Irish fauce, cries CHARLOTTE HEYES,

Is all the fashion now a-days,

Is it not fo, O'K LLY? The Farth from the is a server and

The Female World, fweet Eel! I know, And And The Female World, fweet Eel! I know,

Have bound thy all-fubduing brow

With many a laurel wreath;

And when you rear your standard high, stones and are I to ston when end?

The little Loves around it fly,

And Graces fport beneath.

To pious zeal, to good intent,

When oft in Woman's bosom pent,

Thy fancy can give motion;

And tho' to Heaven she bends her knee,

Her tenderest thoughts employ'd on thee,

Can animate devotion.

The fufty Virgin, stale and wan,

With all her feign'd dislike to Man,

Has many an amorous wish:

Tho' shame on all these Eels she cry,

Does she not cast a wistful eye?

- "What Cat's averse to fish?"

M-C-LAY

· From Insider to Platus;

Hes given a preaser wooder birth,

The beauteous Lady C-TH-R-NE

A young and conder Bel;

But, O! ere many months assessor,

You made a dangerous meal.

- For all admire the Films

I fear, fair Lady, you'll deceyer

of our tail amounted enotice on it

But the thing is good, they fav.

Of dressing this fame Diffe.

What the it collar depleases left !!

The taffe of Am -- n and of WAsr.

Still the Milleure about the way

In one point, Electricity :

the section of the se

La Poursu anisall discount with

Min waters of bom the Lawre

M-c-LAY and BATH-EASTON'S Dame

Escape not this Electric flame,

Which does thro' all prevail;

Nature's first law e'en they can feel:

For all allow they've caught the Eel

Of Science by the Tail.

These are his Arts, we all must own,

Which, fpread thro' Country and thro' Town,

Immortalize his name:

But Sir John Pringle must agree,

That Fish's Electricity

From the Torpedo came.

My power, which dwells in Woman's eye,

Sports in her smiles, heaves in her figh,

And wantons in her hair;

My fparkling fires, which round her play,

Boast more of the æthereal ray,

And stronger flames declare.

Tho' his (a) Conductor may be large

As the tall mast of Lord Mayor's barge,

(a) Terms of Electricity.

Erect and fixt in air;

Yet I emit as full a stream,

Pregnant with warm Electric Flame,

And mine's a larger sphere.

Whate'er D—ANE or M—LLS may fay,
These Eels, I'm sure, cannot display
An older date than we do;
The sam'd Medusa's Gorgon Head,
Whose shaggy front struck mortals dead,
Was only a Torpedo.

Job, too, if Scripture you believe,

Us'd to feel me from morn till eve,

And wish'd for nothing more:

So fond he grew of my warm touch,

He took by chance a stroke too much,

And made bimself all fore.

In Potiphar's all-vigorous wife,

'Twas I that urg'd in amorous strife

Poor Joseph to my bed;

His bashful Eel, unus'd to stand,

When graspt by my electric hand,

Slipt off his coat, and fled.

de broil to min that shi tA

Who briles he land forefather's

But wet on me, and me alone,

He boldly diaws, and puthes home

The rafty pimpled for of Grace

Under Susannah's beauteous face, I brought two Elders to difgrace;

For when TORPEDO took to water,

In jump'd the Elders quickly after,

And there receiv'd the stroke.

A spark from me set Troy on fire;
E'en great Achilles' vengesulire
Was subject to my frown;
And Solomon, in all his glory,
Is but a song, an old wise's story,
Compar'd to my renown.

In those bleak lands, all rocks and snows,

Where the pale luke-warm sun scarce shews

A short half hour of day;

The hungry Scot, with frozen breech,

Thro' the thick arms of ice and itch,

Can feel my potent ray.

Have I not ferv'd my K---LLY's turn,
Who owns that I can sometimes burn,

distriction of the means deall that in the Court of Additional

a much voi or shall so W

. Commente or support.

A flicit half forance day.

And e'en create a pain?

Witness that fervency of nose,

Which sure my flame superior shews

To claret and Champagne.

Who hides his fam'd forefather's fword,

Of Alexanders leaft:

But yet on me, and me alone, He boldly draws, and pushes home

____The nature of the Beast *.

The rofy, pimpled fon of Grace
'Gainst carnal dainties turns his face,
And all such worldly cheer;
But when I offer him my dish,
The Glutton fixing on the Fish,

Keeps Lent throughout the year.

There are in the Creation four different species of Animals; Beasts, Fishes, and Men. It is the fixt law of Nature, that the three first cannot usurp the sphere of either of the others, whilst the last alone can invade the species of any other. To illustrate this affertion, we need only turn our eyes to Newmarket, or the Fashionable Clubs, where we find men become Pigeons every day. There is no occasion to go farther than the Bills of Mortality for odd Fish, and it must be acknowledged there can be no greater Beasts than in the Court of Aldermen.

For he can catch like under :

Have I not rais'd a doubtful flame

That being being to ci

For different from M . KRENETE'S DO

and first steelings his his and

That Merchant known for fare

reported, that when in the courte of three

But what's e'en this ?----

For me could THERLE leave his laws,

To plead in foul Dishonour's cause,

Soliciting too well:

For oh! each Hind and Kentish maid,

Of virgin innocence betray'd,

A mournful tale can tell.

'Twas I that form'd, to win all hearts,

Relentless Rudd's pernicious arts;

My own, my favourite she!

I circumcis'd the (a) naval 7ew,

Stript him of cash and honour too,

——— All that he brought from fea.

Full-powder'd and full-dreft from France,

For me the ST-R-Rs quit the dance,

Those feeble fons of Fashion: The state of the long s and (a)

To quicker time I make them move;

And fince 'tis Motion (b) causes love,

I raise in them a passion. anglished and a mort rest ald and which the

(a) An account of this Gentleman may be seen, by consulting the Trials of the Old Bailey, where he sustained, with uncommon credit, the character of an unbiassed Witness.

(b) For this affertion, vide The Elettrical Eel.

To plead in foul Dehonous control

Solicion to well:

A vented soccosom nigriv 10

A montrial tale can tell.

I circumusis dube (a) naved In

your ruomed bas him to mist mis-

What the to give F-Tzperck fire, The synch of the blues on the

May no celestial art require,

For he can catch like tinder:

Have I not rais'd a doubtful flame

In M--ch's (a) wither'd, sapless frame,

Tho' burnt before to cinder.

My power can warm the clay-cold lump;

For fee old (b) Hard-Ri-ngT-2-n's dry stump

Still trembles like the steel:

Far different from MACKENZIE's page,

I find fresh pleasures for his age,

And teach him how to ____feel.

But what's e'en this? My fame speaks louder,

That Merchant known for farce and powder,

- (a) As a proof of the state of his Lordship's constitution, it is considently reported, that when in the course of three or four months, he is troubled with any imprudent ebullition of passion, he immediately sets off for Bath, to repair the loss he has sustained.
- (b) This venerable Peer, from a long indulgence in various courses of Gallantry, has reduced his present pleasures to so confined a compass, as to derive no satisfaction now, but from the mere touch. Mr. Mackenzie has, indeed, given a very charming description of a Man of Feeling; but from some traits, which were never perceivable in his Lordship's conduct, the character seems to be somewhat different.

For Contracts and for Fancy;
With length of rod, unknown before,
Attracts my sparks, to save his store,
And turns them on poor Nancy (b).

On many a thing to fix his eye,

JACK W-LKES has tried, but look'd awry,

And ne'er could hit the mark;

Till to one focus brought, his fight

By my Electric Spark.

Surveys the object of delight,

The vulgar pleasures of the Field.

Alone from Love the heart can shield,

And my all-piercing flame;

Long shall that callous Duke (c) escape

The roseat lip, the tempting shape;

And know me but by name.

I lent my power to P.4-Rs-ONS' charms,

To add young graces to her arms,

(b) The happy appellation by which this Gentleman diftinguishes Miss B--N.

Nor one kind hand to cand to can

The arrow from he breath

A mail and anather Hall.

The mighty though light adT

(c) Every one knows the attachment of the Duke of Derset to Cricket: The following anecdote will prove it. Two Clergymen were candidates for a Living in his Grace's presentation, which he bestowed on the best Batsman.

And:

at transition, but to impact it is

And turns them on over IV a

Lock W-true has good, but loc

that the property work and to It'll

' Idaileh io Baldo alir evavisio

dum aci ud bigco pi'a ba.

Por Courses and for Parties And make her beauties fell : The fire pass'd from hand to hand, Few could its rapid force withstand, But feeble M---YN---RD (c) fell.

In every clime the unhappy Peer Shall wander like the wounded deer,

Abandon'd and distrest:

Him shall the faithless Herd forsake;

Nor one kind hand be found to take The arrow from his breaft.

What tho' Lord CH--LM-D-LY may conceal

A most enormous length of Eel,

Admir'd for fize and bone:

This mighty thing when lank, depress'd,

A mere noun adjective at best, Is useless when alone.

(c) This unhappy young Nobleman feems now making retribution for his past offences. Having spent a large paternal fortune in seducing female innocence to Vice, he is now amiably employed in conducting NANCY P-RS-NS in the paths of Virtue. The full willing specific of I waste in The Clare the will at T

But warm'd by Ellion's wanton Wife, The ponderous body feels new life, Prepar'd to give the stroke, Erect in all the pride of Nature, E'en then to please this beauteous Creature, It stoops to wear my yoke.

Then hear, O HUNTER! hear my prayer! And be my better part thy care, Nor let my laurels fade: Confine me not in flothful ease, Where unemploy'd I ne'er can please - A destitute Old Maid. I he purchase of any life.

My power, the fame in every clime, Still flourishes in spite of Time, As History can teach: My subjects ne'er the battle fly, But either firmly stand, or die Like ARMIGER (a) in the breach.

(a) This Gentleman, who was a General in the army, was engaged to be married to a beautiful young lady, and in order to open the campaign with due vigour, thought proper to take a dose of a certain stimulative powder, which operating rather too forcibly, enabled him to push thro' the outer gate, but he expired the moment he had made a Lodgement.

W. Kabara is set has free at

Bred in all the peale of lyanes.

it doors to wear no vote.

athen a die al distribute and

Me only Sodom's Sons disclaim, Born for foul deeds, which but to name Would shock the modest mind:

Bent on destroying all our race,

Affaffin-like, they shun the face, And meanly stab behind.

Give me then, HUNTER, to be feen,

And long of every Bard the Theme

My memory shall survive:

My fame shall be insur'd by Jews;

Nor shall e'en Hopkins (b) self refuse The purchase of my life.

But should degenerate Britain's Sons,

Deaf to Petitioners and Duns, Refuse their friendly aid;

No one stand up for modest Worth,

No warm and feeling hand ftretch'd forth

To cover me when laid:

(b) This Gentleman's Character and Name are too well known to need any Comment-Suffice it to fay, that being Guardian of the Morals of the City Youth, from his Office, in order to fet them a proper pattern of Frugality, he purchased for himself a little annuity at the moderate price of 201. per cent.

To that bleft clime I'll quick repair,
And breathe prolific Irish air,
Where Health is ever seen;
Where weeping Widows comfort find,
Where longing Virgins never pin'd,
In sickness called—green.

There due respect shall greet my name;
For on such acts they build their same,
On me alone depending:
What tho' the mind may be denied,
By strength of body 'tis supplied,
Which beats all understanding.

There will I spend the rapturous day,
Till Fate forbids my longer stay,
And stops each fond desire;
Then will I take one parting kiss,
And in one long, long act of bliss
Voluptuously expire.

To that bleft clime I'll quich repair, And brenthe prolific I ift air, Where Health is ever form;

Where weeping W.dows comfort find

In fickness called green.

For on fuch afte they build their fame,

On the alone deranding:

Ly sign is of bedy count es

The contract of the contract o

Tiese gall front the ray moun day.

Tall Face forelds thy longer day.

And flore each fond define.

Then will I tipe one retting fait.

And in one long, long all of bins

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